

REMARKS

Claims 1-3, 5-7, 13-17, 19-22, 68-71, 73-78 are currently pending in this application, with claims 1, 13-15, 68 and 76-78 in independent form. Claims 4, 8-12, 18, 23-67 and 72 have been canceled without prejudice or disclaimer. Claims 1-3, 13-17, 68, 70-11 and 76-78 have been amended herein. Applicants submit that no new matter has been added by way of his amendment. Applicants respectfully request reconsideration in view of the foregoing amendments and the following remarks.

Examiner Interview

Applicants and their undersigned representative wish to thank the Examiner and his supervisor for the courtesy extended during a personal interview earlier this year. Specific amendments to independent claim 68 were discussed at that meeting. Applicants have amended independent claim 68, and the other independent claims, in accordance with the Examiner's suggestions. Applicants' encourage the Examiner to contact Applicants' undersigned representative should any issues remain.

Claim Rejections – 35 U.S.C. § 103

Each of the pending claims have been rejected under 35 U.S.C. §103(a), as allegedly being unpatentable over Joao (U.S. Pat. No. 6,347,302), in view of a Ford reference.

The independent claims of the instant application contain a number of limitations which specifically distinguish Applicants' instant invention from the cited art. For example,

claim 68 has been amended to recite: receiving a third indication of a first time period in which a periodic payment is due, and a second time period in which the buyer must pay a financial balance corresponding to the item, the financial balance corresponding to a loan amount or a lease amount, and the second time period being greater than 1 year; calculating on a computer system an insurance premium for the second time period based on the item and the buyer; and calculating a periodic payment on a computer system to pay for the lease or sale of the item and the calculated insurance premium. As was discussed with the Examiner and his supervisor, Applicants respectfully submit that the cited references fail to disclose or suggest these limitations.

The remaining independent claims have also been amended to specifically recite receiving a third indication of a first time period in which a periodic payment is due, and a second time period in which the buyer must pay a financial balance corresponding to the item, the financial balance corresponding to a loan amount or a lease amount, and the second time period being greater than 1 year. As such, Applicants respectfully submit that the remaining independent claims are similarly allowable over the cited references.

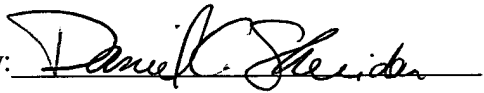
Applicants further submit that the dependent claims are similarly distinguishable from the cited references for at least the aforementioned distinctions between the independent claims and the cited references.

CONCLUSION

It is now believed that all pending claims are in condition for allowance. In view of the amendments and remarks, an early and favorable reconsideration is respectfully requested.

Respectfully submitted,
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